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Watermarks

Howard-Tilton Memorial Library
Tulane University

Volume 2, Issue 1
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Library Participates in PEM Trial

The library's Preservation Department is participating in a field trial of the Preservation Environment Monitor (PEM) system, which will provide accurate information about temperature and humidity fluctuations within the building. Andy Damico, Preservation Department Head, is optimistic about the possibilities this trial avails for his operations and for the opportunity to contribute to a national preservation initiative with other libraries, archives, museums, and historic buildings.

Heat and humidity—those omnipresent New Orleans phenomena—are two critical environmental threats to library materials, including the paper, leather, and glue in books and the plastics in computer disks, microfilm, and videos. According to Damico, "the worst thing possible for most library materials is a continual fluctuation of temperature and humidity. If you keep temperature and humidity at a constant and moderate level, you have won half the battle."

Since the construction of Howard-Tilton in 1968, there has been considerable progress in library preservation, with an acute awareness of the importance of environmental monitoring and control. Nevertheless, in Howard-Tilton, amidst anecdotal evidence of inconsistent conditions including "spikes" of high humidity and temperature, there has been no environmental monitoring plan.

The PEM trial should fill this gap. Coordinated by the Image Permanence Institute research lab and sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Mellon Foundation, and the Institute of Museum and Library Service, the project will last eighteen months on site, from late January 2001 through July 2002. Following training, staff at the 180 participating institutions will test and evaluate the new PEM dataloggers and its Climate Notebook software, contributing data to a collective database and web-based information resource.

The dataloggers record temperature and relative humidity in storage and display areas; they display current readings and can recall conditions from the previous 90 days. The resulting data will then be uploaded into a computer. The Climate Notebook can store, analyze, and provide printed reports on the data. It can even predict the probability and severity of

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Book Captures the Butterfly of Winter

"Carnival is a butterfly of winter whose last mad flight of Mardi Gras forever ends his glory. Another season is the glory of another butterfly, and the tattered, scattered, fragments of rainbow wings are the record of his day." Henri Schindler leans slightly forward, his eyes wide, intense, his soft voice taking on a surprising depth as he quotes the words written by Perry Young in *The Mystick Krewe*, a history of Carnival published in 1931. "This is the greatest description of Carnival that will ever be written."

The author of two lavishly illustrated books on Mardi Gras, *Mardi Gras: New Orleans* (Flammarion, 1997), and *Mardi Gras Treasures: Invitations of the Golden Age* (Pelican, 2000), Schindler is highly respected both as a Carnival historian

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Main Entry: ' **wa·ter·mark**
'wo-t&r-"märk, 'wä-
Function: *noun*
Date: 1678
1 : a mark indicating the height to which water has risen
2 : a marking in paper resulting from differences in thickness usually produced by pressure of a projecting design in the mold or on a processing roll and visible when the paper is held up to the light; *also* : the design of or the metal pattern producing the marking

Library Cooperation: United We Stand

"The most cost-effective way to build collections and provide access to information is through consortial purchasing and sharing of information. Through consortial alliances, our acquisitions funds are leveraged in the volatile marketplace of academic publishing."

This issue of *Watermarks* features the library's successful efforts in partnering with other institutions locally, regionally, and nationally. More than ever, Tulane is a major player in cooperative efforts to improve our libraries. As one of only two Louisiana members of the Association of Research Libraries, the Tulane main library must be a leader in developing cooperative efforts to ensure that our faculty and students have access to the information they need.

Library collections are expensive and are becoming ever more so. The quality of our own collections is dependent upon funding, of course, but so is our access to other library collections and electronic resources. Funding comes through our traditional reliance on university central administration and also from private donors and foundations. Regarding the first line of support, President Cowen has identified the libraries as a high priority, and he is delivering. Regarding the second, Howard-Tilton has been fortunate to receive important gifts from private donors during the past few months.

The confidence of our supporters in our ability to use these resources wisely for collection building is key to securing and enhancing our funding. Howard-Tilton's selectors are committed, careful, and deliberate in building collections that reflect and support curricular and research programs and trends. But that isn't enough. The most cost-effective way to build collections and provide access to information is through consortial purchasing and sharing of information. Through consortial alliances, our acquisitions funds are leveraged in the volatile marketplace of academic publishing.

Look to future issues of *Watermarks* for more success stories of our cooperative efforts to enhance information accessibility. Being a leader in developing consortial arrangements with other research institutions is more than good citizenship; it is good business.

LANCE QUERY

Dean of Libraries and Academic Information Resources

CRL is the Research Library's Research Library

When Gary Van Zante, Curator of the Southeastern Architectural Archive, wanted to learn what sort of camera lenses would have been available to Theodore Lilienthal, the nineteenth century photographer who documented the New Orleans cityscape for Napoleon III, he knew that the answer would not likely emerge from Tulane's small collection of primary materials in the history of photography. Van Zante also faced the reality that few libraries have adequate collections documenting early photography, a subject relatively new to university curricula. But he did know that the John Crerar Library once held an outstanding collection in this area. The bad news was that the Crerar Library had deaccessed collections peripheral to its central missions when money was tight, and photography materials were among the items removed. The good news was that the collections went just a few miles away to the Center for Research Libraries (CRL). The better news is that Van Zante now has on loan a part of the original Crerar resources—over a dozen volumes of the nineteenth century *Philadelphia Photographer*—in his Jones Hall workroom, where its yellow pages with tipped-in albumen-print portraits and landscapes are revealing the technical secrets of the early days of the photographer's art.

(Continued on page 3)

CRL extends Howard-Tilton's resources

(Continued from page 2)

Beverly P. Lynch, CRL's Interim President, notes that CRL, which began as a cooperative venture among ten universities seeking to solve space problems, has grown not just in size over the past fifty years, but also in importance, since many of the materials are unique. CRL today is a central repository, lending library, and cooperative purchasing venture and preservation initiative among major national research libraries. It is, for all intents, a research library's library, the place where research libraries turn for ephemeral, arcane, and peripheral materials. The Howard-Tilton Memorial Library belongs to CRL and makes its research materials available to Tulane scholars.

Adam Krob, Executive Assistant to the Vice President for Technology Infrastructure Services, is a savvy user of CRL collections relevant to his research in twentieth century German national identity politics. "The CRL collections in early twentieth century political writing are excellent," says Krob, "and I have found items I could not find elsewhere, not just the political writing but also novels, plays, scholarly texts, and primary texts.

Professor Emeritus Herman Freudenberger has pointed out that CRL is truly an extension of our own library, albeit with some convoluted access issues. To best discover what CRL has to offer, researchers are directed to the CRL web site through the library's home page or directly at http://wwwcrl.uchicago.edu.

While CRL materials are handled as interlibrary loan (ILL) transactions, the response time for receipt of materials from CRL is much faster than regular ILL, and the loan period is generous: unless an item is recalled, there is not an official due date. CRL will also loan copious amounts of research materials.

Freudenberger, whose interests lie in the economic history of central Europe, says "for someone working in my field, without it, I'd be stuck." He depends upon both contemporary subscriptions and back files of German newspapers, and CRL has an outstanding foreign newspaper collection. Jennifer Cella, Howard-Tilton's ILL librarian, says that when she was squeezed out of her office last fall by boxes of nineteenth century copies of the *Allgemeine Zeitung* (Augsburg) on loan to Freudenberger, she knew just by the volume that they were from CRL.

CRL actively seeks materials in several areas, including Russian Academy of Sciences publications, foreign doctoral dissertations, archival materials, newspapers, and periodicals. CRL also maintains area programs focusing on African, Latin American, and Asian materials. CRL has significant collections in areas as diverse as dime novels, seventeenth century French and Italian literature, foreign bank reports, and collections of society and institutional papers and documents.

Large purchases come about through CRL's Purchase Proposal Program, which accepts nominations from its members. Any Tulane scholar may make a CRL purchase proposal through Howard-Tilton Library. The two main criteria for purchase proposals are that the items cost over $1000, and that they are not readily available from other research libraries. In addition, CRL will purchase *on demand* items in some categories, including newspaper files and archival materials, spending a maximum of $2000 per patron per research project.

Librarians sometimes think of CRL as an under-utilized resource, but Lynch points out that its collections "by definition are comprised of rarely held and rarely used scholarly materials. So by a popular library definition, the collections are utilized to a lesser degree than most research library collections." Freudenberger, interjecting the economist's perspective, noted that any cost-benefit analysis of CRL membership is more complex than measuring individual scholars' use of its materials. Supporting the work of an institution like CRL in today's global information environment is critical to affirming a library's social responsibility to preserve research materials and promote scholarship and, he concludes, "is further justification for Howard-Tilton calling itself a research library." SW

Professor Emeritus Herman Freudenberger, a user of CRL resources, has pointed out that CRL is an extension of our own library, albeit with convoluted access issues.

The CRL web page offers access guides and publications designed to help identify its holdings. To best discover what CRL has to offer, researchers should explore the CRL web site at http://wwwcrl.uchicago.edu or its "quick search" web page at http://wwwcrl.uchicago.edu/info/quicksearch.htm. Please seek the assistance of a Tulane librarian for help negotiating the CRL web site or for requesting loans or purchases.

Consortia Allow More Digital Resources

Making information resources available outside the classroom raises instructional challenges for librarians and faculty seeking to incorporate resources into curricula. The library is addressing these through its instructional programs, coordinated by Jean-Paul Orgeron. Faculty interested in partnering with the library to help students get the most out of these resources should call Orgeron at X2916.

The library plans to add three major digital reference sources to its online collection this spring through cooperative funding ventures with area libraries. These new resources are the *Web of Science* from the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI), *SciFinder Scholar* (an online version of *Chemical Abstracts*), and *ScienceDirect* (online access to more than 500 journals from the publisher Elsevier and its partners such as Pergamon Press). The library has been seeking these kinds of consortial price breaks on almost all of its new subscriptions to digital resources and digital subscription renewals, said Andy Corrigan, Assistant Dean for Research and Information Services, at Howard-Tilton.

The *Web of Science* is the web interface for access to three large bibliographic databases: *Arts and Humanities Citation Index*, *Social Sciences Citation Index*, and *Science Citation Index*. Together these research tools provide author and keyword indexing to over 8,000 journals and inform researchers of who cited whom, how often, and when. The citation pattern information is a unique offering of ISI and one that effectively exploits electronic searching capabilities. Through the ISI links feature, the *Web of Science* also offers navigation to the online full-text articles from other sources subscribed to by the library as well as to genetic, chemical, and patent databases.

"This is an important resource we had not been able to afford on our own, but working with other libraries and the vendor on a group purchase finally brought the price within our grasp," said Corrigan. To purchase the *Web of Science,* the library formed a consortium with the University of New Orleans (UNO) and Grambling University.

SciFinder Scholar allows students and faculty to retrieve information in the *Chemical Abstracts* databases through the internet. Special software allows searching by author, topic, substance identifier, chemical structure, or chemical reaction. Users can point and click to retrieve information about more than 28 million substances, and links are provided to the library's full-text online journals. Howard-Tilton has a consortial subscription to *SciFinder* with UNO, Grambling, and the University of Louisiana at Monroe libraries.

ScienceDirect is funded by Howard-Tilton and by the business and medical libraries at Tulane. A group license agreement allows access across the campus network to journals the libraries subscribe to separately, and also for document delivery, by way of interlibrary loan, to an annual quota of articles listed in *ScienceDirect* but not owned by Tulane libraries.

ScienceDirect is accessible to Tulane users from the "Articles and Journals" category of TULANet Voyager's Digital Resources section. The *Web of Science* and *SciFinder Scholar* are expected to be added soon.

EE

"High Tech Enables High Touch"

The Information Services Department has combined its service desks to provide both librarian-mediated research guidance and technical support from library assistants from the same point. The new desk is centrally located in the lobby, making it easier for patrons to find help.

"We wanted to make the service point more prominent, and our most valuable space was taken up by print indexes now available electronically, " said Lance Query, Dean of Libraries and Academic Information Resources. "It's a situation where high-tech enables high-touch, and high-touch supports high-tech; that's a powerful confluence for delivering information services."

Andy Corrigan, Assistant Dean for Research and Information Services, explained that the new structure will enable librarians and staff to cooperatively address subject questions and procedural issues relevant to the new technologies.

"We want our users to know the library is a classroom where they can learn about effectively accessing and critically evaluating research materials," Corrigan added. "This change is all about addressing that teaching role."

Proposed State Law Threatens Fair Use

A proposed addition to state contract law—one that has significant potential for restricting libraries' privileges granted under the Copyright Act—is making the round of state legislatures, including Louisiana, where it has been referred to the House Committee on Civil Law and Procedures. The Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act (UCITA) is currently tabled in the Louisiana legislature but may be reintroduced in 2001. UCITA is widely opposed by educational, legal, and consumer organizations, including the American Library Association, the Association of Research Libraries, the Federal Trade Commission, and the National Consumer Law Center. It may inhibit libraries' abilities to preserve, lend, or make fair use of electronic materials and restrict their roles in negotiating contracts with electronic publishers.

James Neal, Dean of Libraries at Johns Hopkins University and an expert in intellectual property concerns, has noted that "libraries are among the largest consumers of software. We not only provide patrons with computerized access to electronic information products and services, we use software to run our internal operations." Neal adds that because libraries spend hundreds of millions of dollars in annual fees for licenses to electronic databases and research materials, "the library community has a huge stake" in deliberations affecting the outcome of UCITA. Neal believes that UCITA, if enacted, could mean that research institutions such as Tulane could see "a substantial rise in their cost to access to information, which is their life-blood."

Enacting UCITA could diminish library patrons' use of fee-based electronic information in several ways. Of particular concern is the act's provisions for "shrink-wrap" and "clickable" licenses, which hide the terms of agreement until the user binds himself to a contract before opening the package. The American Library Association's web site devoted to UCITA (http://www.ala.org/washoff/ucita) suggests that these contracts could effectively prohibit classroom or educational use, or even prohibit quoting from the work. UCITA also appears to sidestep the Copyright Act's "first sale doctrine," jeopardizing libraries' rights to lend materials.

Most opponents of UCITA say that libraries are not against digital resources contract law, but they believe that UCITA is not the law that should be enacted. Rodney Petersen, Director of Policy and Planning in the Office of Information Technology at the University of Maryland and a founder of NEThics, an organization committed to information technology ethics, has pointed out that all these issues need to be examined more closely in a realm where reliance on the internet is increasing. Petersen advocates a "new legal framework" encompassing licensing and "freedom to contract" for transactions in the electronic environment. SW

To voice concerns about UCITA and its possible reintroduction into the Louisiana legislature this year, contact your state senators and representatives. To find names and addresses for these legislators for your district, go to the Louisiana Legislature Home Page at

www.legis.state.la.us/home.htm

Concerns may also be addressed to State Attorney General Richard Ieyoub at:

P.O. Box 94005
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
70804-9005, or by phone at
(225) 342-7013.

Preservation Environment Monitoring system

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future mold growth. One goal is to learn useful information on the environmental requirements for preserving specific types of material.

After the trial, institutions will keep their dataloggers and software. Using PEM, Howard-Tilton will communicate with Facilities Services to ensure appropriate, stable temperature and humidity levels. PEM could be a valuable tool for protecting the library's collection. After all, as Damico points out, "our collection represents not only a multi-million dollar investment for the university, it also includes rare and irreplaceable research materials."

Damico has other plans for his department, previously called "the bindery." It was renamed several years ago to reflect the intended expansion of its functions. To accomplish preservation effectively (particularly more sophisticated in-house repair and conservation), additional space is imperative, Damico says. He would also like a properly equipped preservation lab. For now, the PEM trial provides a significant opportunity to update and upgrade the library's preservation efforts.

RM-W

Librarians Unite to Bring Competition to Scientific Publishing

Annual Subscription Costs of Select Science Journals

Gene (Elsevier)	$6,974
Journal of Applied Polymer Science (Wiley)	$11,570
Journal of Materials Science (Chapman and Hall)	$6,167
Nuclear Instruments & Methods in Physical Research Section A, B (North-Holland)	$14,697
Thin Solid Films (Elsevier)	$8,323

You can find the SPARC web site at http://www.arl.org/sparc and the BioOne web site at http://BioOne.org.

More information about scientists and researchers working to create changes in the scholarly communication system is available at http://createchange.org.

Spiraling periodical costs continue to astound and dismay librarians and researchers. The Association of Research Libraries' (ARL) statistics show that its members spent 170% more to subscribe to 6% fewer journals in 1999 than they did in 1986. The situation is most harsh in the sciences, where the average journal cost in 1999 was $658, compared to the average social science journal at $292 and the average humanities journal at $129, according to the 1999 *Library Journal* Periodical Price Survey.

A large part of the problem is that much of scientific publishing, once the domain of non-profit societies seeking to disseminate information, has now moved to commercial presses. As Peter Sheperd, managing director of Elsevier Science in Switzerland, one of the largest of the scientific publishers has noted, "the goal of any business is to make money. I don't see that as incompatible with serving the needs of scientific communication." A sampling (see sidebar) of the commercially published science journals to which Howard-Tilton subscribes reveals much about the bottom line to the academic community: scientists find they must publish in journals their libraries can't afford, and library budgets are compromised to maintain the most important titles in spite of their costs.

For many years, industry observers watched while commercial publishers profited from scientists' need to publish and libraries' obligation to purchase in a market with little competition. This changed in June of 1998, when ARL launched the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC), an initiative to transform scholarly publishing and provide lower-priced alternatives to higher-priced commercially published journals in the sciences. Howard-Tilton Memorial Library is a founding member of SPARC, supporting its initiatives and subscribing to its growing list of journals.

SPARC's first undertaking was a partnership with the American Chemical Society (ACS) to develop three new journals over three years. The first was *Organic Letters*, first published in 1999, a $2300 alternative to Elsevier's $8602 *Tetrahedron Letters*. It was followed shortly after by a SPARC venture with the Royal Society of Chemistry to produce an electronic journal, *PhysChemComm,* for $353 per year, to compete with Elsevier's *Chemical Physics Letters*, at $8368 annually. SPARC also funded *Evolutionary Ecology Research*, a new print journal formed in part by the editor of *Evolutionary Ecology,* who resigned when this Kluwer journal raised its price from $464 to $777.

The number of SPARC journals continues to grow, but alternative journals are not the only SPARC projects. In 1999 the organization teamed with the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS) representing 55 biology societies, the Big 12 Plus Libraries Consortium, the University of Kansas, and the Allen Press to create, develop, and maintain *BioOne*, a full-text database of the 80 or so research journals published by AIBS member societies. There are also SPARC scientific communities partnerships, which include *Project Euclid*, an initiative led by the Cornell University Library and Duke University Press and funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, to develop an infrastructure for independent journals in mathematics and statistics. Another recent SPARC project is *Columbia Earthscape*, a portal which provides access to a wide range of online earth science resources.

SPARC may already be making a difference. The American Association of Physical Anthropologists, with a little help from SPARC, has announced a new publishing agreement with its commercial publisher, Wiley-Liss, subsidiary of John Wiley & Sons, resulting in a cut in price to the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, from $2085 to $1390, for the annual institutional subscription, according to the October 15, 2000 *Library Journal*.

EE

The Carnival Collection is one of the Treasures of Tulane

(Continued from page 1)
and as a designer of Carnival parades and balls. At first meeting, you are struck by the formality of his speech and bearing, and his encyclopedic knowledge of the art and culture of Mardi Gras. Then, after a few moments, you are caught up in the intensity of his love for his subject.

The New Orleans native remembers his introduction to Carnival: "My first Mardi Gras was in 1946, when I was five years old. There was no Carnival during the war. When I saw the first parade, I was totally mesmerized in a way I had never been and probably have not been since. I was just blown away by Mardi Gras, and I've loved it passionately since childhood. It's always been my favorite time of year." As a child, Schindler spent hours in the

"Tulane has the premier collection of Carnival ephemera and, more importantly, of the original Carnival art work."

public library, poring over books on Carnival. A museum exhibit of Mardi Gras memorabilia inspired him to develop his own collection, focusing on the invitations and parade bulletins (artists' sketches of the parade, published in the daily papers) of the Golden Age of Carnival (1870-1930).

In the mid 1980s Schindler began planning his own book, not realizing that its publication lay nearly twenty years in the future. His research soon led him to the Tulane Carnival Collection and hundreds of hours of work there. According to Schindler, "Tulane has the premier collection of ephemera and, more importantly, of the original art work. What Tulane has that no one else comes close to are float and costume designs. Special Collections is not only a library but an art museum."

Interestingly, since discovering Tulane's collection, Schindler has virtually stopped his own collecting. "Being able to see these things was important," he says, "not ownership."

What of this Tulane Carnival Collection, source of so many of the designs included in Schindler's books? Housed in Jones Hall, the collection is part of Tulane's Manuscripts Department, one of the larger research archives of New Orleans society and culture. Mary LeBlanc is your guide through its Mardi Gras treasures. LeBlanc began working in Special Collections in 1973. Now officially retired, she still volunteers four hours weekly to the Carnival collection.

In my tour of the collection, LeBlanc meets me at the back of the Victor H. and Margaret G. Schiro Reading Room. A right turn, a wait as she punches in a pass code, then opens a door, and here I am. As my eyes adjust to the soft light, I see that I'm standing between steel shelves, filled with acid-free storage boxes, some dark gray, some dull tan. Ahead are steel map files. It's ironic that archives of New Orleans' noisy, gaudy holiday rest in the silence of somber boxes and steel.

LeBlanc knows this collection well. Walking through the narrow aisle, she points out the holdings. "Here are the earliest materials, from the oldest organizations: Momus, Proteus, Rex, Twelfth Night…there are dance cards, programs, call-outs...." She goes on to describe late nineteenth and early twentieth century holdings: costume designs, float designs, parade bulletins, photos, krewe favors, pins ("Those are my favorites," she adds), doubloons, medals, and more. She guides me past the Rex School of Design collection, then collections of middle and late twentieth century krewes.

We talk about preservation and cataloging, and I am struck by LeBlanc's intelligence, her quiet confidence. We walk to a table and she picks up one of the several large archival folders. I am stunned, speechless as she opens each folder, revealing float and costume designs of Carnival's golden age. I have never seen such remarkable drawings, such intense watercolor. We chatter and laugh like children at a first Carnival parade. I understand what brought LeBlanc out of retirement, what drew Schindler to spend hundreds of hours in this collection—a glimpse of the lost butterflies of winter.

TSTJ

You may view selections from the Tulane Carnival Collection in a new online exhibit. The exhibit is available from the Special Collections Division's home page on the web:

specialcollections.tulane.edu

Dance card for the Mystic Krewe of Comus Ball, 1897. Theme: "Homer's Odyssey"

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Howard-Tilton Memorial Library now has a simpler and more intuitive URL:

library.tulane.edu

Editor: Sara Williams

Your comments are welcome at saraw@tulane.edu

Contributors included Jennifer Cella, Andy Corrigan, Andy Damico, Eleanor Elder, Rebecca Malek-Wiley, Leon Miller, Lance Query, Thaïs St. Julien, Cecilia Stafford, and Sara Williams.

Library Committed to Being "Study-Friendly"

Howard-Tilton has initiated several new "study-friendly" policies addressing food and drink, noise levels, and building hours. Cecilia Stafford, Associate Dean of Libraries, explained that the policies were developed with attention to safety issues and our users' past requests.

The building hours have been extended to 2:00 A.M. Sunday through Thursday nights. This is a permanent change in the regular hours, not an exam-period extension as in the past. A late-night security officer has been hired to patrol the building and monitor suspicious behavior and compliance with library rules.

To address noise, the library administration has designated areas where cell phones may be used and set aside the third floor as a quiet study area. Patrons are requested to restrict cell phone use to the elevator lobbies and to the snack bar in the basement. Students studying in groups of two or more are asked to refrain from using the third floor to maintain a quiet atmosphere for those wishing to study quietly.

Library users are now allowed to bring beverages into the library as long as they are in secure, spill-proof containers: either reusable mugs with tightly fitting lids, or bottles with screw-top caps. Containers with flimsier lids or no lids at all are not allowed. Stafford said she hopes that this more liberal policy will allow our users a little more comfort in the library without compromising materials and equipment, which are highly susceptible to both immediate damage from spills and further damage from the insects the spills attract. Food may not be consumed in the library, except in the basement snack bar.